

**NNC14ZDA001N-PICASSO (02/18/2014)**  
**NOTICE OF PARTNERING OPPORTUNITY WITH GRC FOR THE PLANETARY INSTRUMENT**  
**CONCEPTS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SOLAR SYSTEM OBSERVATIONS (PICASSO)**  
**SOLICITATION**

## **PREFACE**

The NASA Glenn Research Center is leading a proposal development effort in response to NASA proposal solicitations. The technical areas which GRC seek partnership arrangements are those that contribute to science and exploration technology objectives described in solicitations to develop and apply new technologies that will yield the next generation of innovative instruments for relevant investigations.

## **1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has issued a NASA Research Announcement (NRA) NNC14ZDA001N-PICASSO Appendix C.12 entitled "Planetary Instrument Concepts for the Advancement of Solar System Observations" (PICASSO), posted on the internet at:

<http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?method=init&solId={2665EF4A-83ED-D793-9203-2D1E5FC03740}&path=open>

Proposals to this NRA are due via NSPIRES on September 15, 2014. The NASA Glenn Research Center (GRC) intends to submit a proposal to this and closely-related solicitations. This Notice is intended to allow interested non-Government entities to team with GRC consistent with the instructions provided below.

## **2 PURPOSE OF NOTICE**

NASA Glenn Research Center (GRC) is issuing this Notice of Partnering Opportunity for the purpose of openly and competitively selecting prospective team members to assist it in the preparation of proposals to be submitted by GRC to NASA in response to this and closely-related solicitations. This process is being conducted in accordance with NASA FAR Supplement 1872.308. By this Notice, GRC is seeking information from partners regarding their availability, cost, capabilities, and past performance that relates to the development of instrumentation for planetary science observations. This Notice also authorizes NASA GRC to award grants, cooperative agreements and/or contracts to its selected partner(s) without further competition or justification, for execution of any GRC proposal that is selected by NASA.

## **3 OVERVIEW**

This Notice is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government to enter into a partnership. This Notice is subject to revision or cancellation at any time. Based on the responses to this Notice, GRC anticipates selecting organizations with which GRC would then immediately work directly and individually to develop, complete, and submit proposals in response to the above-mentioned solicitation.

During the proposal development phase, specific roles and cost estimates for the selected partners will be developed. For any GRC proposal that is selected by NASA, GRC intends to

negotiate, without further competition or justification, a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract with each proposal partner, consistent with their agreed upon role and this Notice. During these Procurement negotiations, the specific statement of work, terms and conditions, and procurement value will be determined. There will be no exchange of funds between GRC and the teaming partners during the preparation of proposals. NASA will not be responsible for any costs incurred by respondents in preparing a response to this Notice or by the selected partners in assisting GRC in the preparation of proposals.

#### 4 DETAILS OF THE OPPORTUNITY

The Planetary Instrument Concepts for the Advancement of Solar System Observations (PICASSO) Program supports the development of spacecraft-based instrument systems that show promise for use in future planetary missions. The goal of the program is to conduct planetary and astrobiology science instrument feasibility studies, concept formation, proof of concept instruments, and advanced component technology development to the point where they may be proposed in response to the Maturation of Instruments for Solar System Exploration (MatISSE) Program, C.13 of ROSES.

GRC interests include, but are not limited to, chemical and physical sensors for extreme environments for Venus, Mars, Europa or other bodies. Specific interests include:

(1) science partners who are interested in developing science goals involving measurements that would result from the maturation and development of instruments which would provide multi-directional measurements of GCR's (galactic cosmic rays) and SEP's (solar energetic protons), fast electron flux, and gamma radiation in the vicinity of planets of interest, on future orbiting or surface-based platforms.

(2) Instrumentation useful for in-situ measurements in the Venus atmosphere such as chemical species, wind velocity, dust, UV radiation and spectrometry.

(3) Seismometers for Venus surface measurements.

(4) Other new and novel approaches to instruments and sensors for planetary missions.

Respondents should identify the integrated team to provide the appropriate technology consistent with the guidance in this Notice and the NRA. Respondents should also identify potential roles they offer to perform in activities addressed in the NRA.

#### 5 EVALUATION CRITERIA

NASA GRC will evaluate the submitted information from the Respondents based on the following criteria, listed in descending order of importance:

(1) Relevance of technology concepts to the solicitation and this Notice.

(2) Relevant experience, past performance, technical capability, and availability of key personnel. This criterion evaluates the proposer's relevant recent experience, past performance in similar development activities, technical capability to perform the development and key personnel available to support the development.

(3) Cost and schedule control. This criterion evaluates the respondent's ability to control both cost and schedule.

(4) Facilities. This criterion evaluates the respondent's facilities (development, testing, analysis, and operations) to conduct the development or demonstration of the proposed task.

(5) Cost sharing. This criterion evaluates the extent and type of non-mandatory cost sharing proposed, if any, and the potential partner's commitment to do so.

GRC anticipates completing its evaluation and selection process on or about September 15, 2014. Selected partners will be contacted directly by GRC to develop proposals. At that time, GRC may ask for supplemental information. All responses will be treated as proprietary information and controlled as such.

## 6 RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS

Responses are limited to no more than 2 pages that address the evaluation criteria in not less than 12-point font. Respondents should include the following for evaluation against the criteria above:

(1) Proposed contributions relevant to the solicitation and details of this opportunity described above including contributed components or subsystems, maturation activities and project roles.

(2) Evidence of successful participation in previous, similar development efforts.

(3) Evidence of successful cost and schedule control in previous similar development programs and evidence of relevant management processes.

(4) Descriptions of facility operational and analysis capability, availability, and access to meet the proposed component or subsystem, maturation, and project roles.

(5) Any cost sharing that would be offered for a potential contract or cooperative agreement.

Responses are due to NASA GRC no later than 5 p.m. EDT on September 10, 2014. Any responses received after this time and date will be handled as late proposals in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation 15.208. Responses to this Notice must be submitted in the form of a Portable Data Format (PDF) file. Responses and technical questions should be submitted via e-mail to Dan Vento (Daniel.M.Vento@nasa.gov).

Any procurement process related questions may be submitted via e-mail to Mr. Timothy Pierce (timothy.c.pierce@nasa.gov) or by phone at (216) 433-2147.

## 7 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEASES

The Internet site, or URL, for the NASA/GRC Business Opportunities page is <http://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/eps/bizops.cgi?gr=D&pin=22> It is the responsibility of potential respondents to monitor the NASA Acquisition Internet Service (NAIS), GRC Procurement site for any further information concerning this Notice.